

Message Text

SECRET

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42

ACTION EUR-25

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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9883

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN PRIORITY

USDOCOSOUTH PRIORITY

USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

DIA WASHDC//DI-5//

S E C R E T NICOSIA 2938

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CY UK

SUBJ: CLERIDES/DENKTASH COMMENTS TO UK HIGH COMMISSIONER

RE: NICOSIA 2818

1. UK HIGH COMMISSIONER OLVER SHAW DENKTASH AND CLERIDES IN SUCCESSIVE APPOINTMENTS SEPT 6 BEFORE LEAVING FOR LONDON FOR FCO GATHERING OF UK CHIEFS OF MISSION IN ATHENS, ANKARA AND NICOSIA TO DISCUSS CYPRUS NEXT STEPS.

2. OLVER FOUND DENKTASH IN A SOUR MOOD, NO DOUBT BROUGHT ABOUT BY HIS DISCOMFITURE AT GOING THROUGH WITH THIS AFTERNOON'S MEETING WITH CLERIDES IN FACE OF MUCH COMMUNAL CRITICISM CAUSED BY MASS GRAVES DISCOVERIES. I ASKED OLVER WHETHER HE HAD GOTTEN ANY REFLECTION OF TURKISH DECISION TO PROCEED WITH PROCLAMATION

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OF "FEDERAL TURKISH REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS." OLVER SAID NOT AT

THIS MEETING BUT TEN DAYS AGO DENKTASH HAD TOLD HIM THIS WAS A RUMOR BEING CIRCULATED TO PUT PRESSURE ON GREEKS AND NOT A SERIOUS PROPOSITION. COMMENT: IT WOULD BE GRATIFYING, BUT UNWISE, TO CREDIT THIS STATEMENT FROM DENKTASH. END COMMENT.

3. CLERIDES CONFIRMED TO OLVER OUR SUSPICION (NICOSIA 2818) THAT HE HAD BECOME QUITE CONCERNED ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF SOME SPOILING ACTION BY MAKARIOS IN VIEW LATTER'S RECENT RAPID-FIRE STATEMENTS TO INTERNATIONAL PRESS DENOUNCING ANY SOLUTION BASED ON FEDERALISM OR GEOGRAPHIC DEMARCATION. MAKARIOS HAS SURROUNDED HIMSELF IN LONDON WITH SEVERAL OF HIS MOST UNSAVORY ADVISERS: FORMER FONMIN KYPRIANOU, FORMER COMMISSIONER OF COOPERATIVES AZINAS, FORMER HEAD OF CYPRUS INTELLIGENCE SERVICE TOMBAZOS, PROTOCOL CHIEF PELAGHIAS, AND PRESIDENTIAL UNDER SECRETARY STAVROU. THESE WERE INTERACTING WITH MAKARIOS TO FEED ALL HIS WORST INSTINCTS. IF MAKARIOS COULD NOT BE BROUGHT ON BOARD ON CLERIDES' APPROACH TO NEGOTIATION, AT LEAST TO POINT OF ACQUIESCENCE, CHANCES OF SUCCESS COULD BE WRITTEN OFF. CLERIDES ASKED OLVER FOR ASSISTANCE OF RAF IN GETTING A PERSONAL ENVOY FROM CLERIDES TO MAKARIOS OFF TO LONDON SOONEST. HE IS PASCHALIS PASCHALIDES, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF HELLENIC MINES, MAKARIOS' HOLDING COMPANY FOR VERY SUBSTANTIAL INVESTMENTS HE HAS ACQUIRED WHILE PRESIDENT OF CYPRUS. PASCHALIDES IS WELL QUALIFIED, BEING CLOSE TO MAKARIOS BUT REALISTIC AND TOUGH. PASCHALIDES WILL ARRIVE LONDON SEPT 7.

4. IN RESPONSE OLVER'S QUESTION, CLERIDES SPECULATED ON WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN IN GREEK CYPRUS IF NEGOTIATIONS BROKE DOWN. ONE POSSIBILITY WAS SIMPLY CHAOS WITH CLERIDES OUT AND GREEK CYPRIOT FACTIONS FIGHTING AMONST EACH OTHER. A MORE LIKELY POSSIBILITY, IN CLERIDES' VIEW, WAS MAKARIOS' RETURN HEADING AN ACROSS-THE-BOARD GOVT OF NATIONAL UNITY COMPRISING EVERYTHING FROM COMMUNISTS TO EOKA-B. OLVER COMMENTED THAT THIS WOULD BE A GOVT OF SUICIDE NOT SALVATION, GIVEN TURKEY'S CERTAIN REACTION. CLERIDES AGREED.

5. COMMENT: ELEMENT OF SELF-SERVICE IS EVIDENT IN CLERIDES' REMARKS BUT HE IS RIGHT TO WORRY ABOUT DANGERS OF MAKARIOS' SPOILING ROLE. CRAWFORD

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